

Massachusetts Cultural Resource Information System

Scanned Record Cover Page

Inventory No:	EAS.83
Historic Name:	Myrick, John House
Common Name:	
Address:	820 Massasoit Rd
City/Town:	Eastham
Village/Neighborhood:	North Eastham
Local No:	05-213
Year Constructed:	r 1840
Architect(s):	
Architectural Style(s):	Greek Revival
Use(s):	Agricultural; Single Family Dwelling House
Significance:	Agriculture; Architecture
Area(s):	
Designation(s):	
Building Materials(s):	Roof: Cedar Shingle Wall: Wood Shingle; Wood Foundation: Brick



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Massachusetts Historical Commission
220 Morrissey Boulevard, Boston, Massachusetts 02125
www.sec.state.ma.us/mhc

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FORM B - BUILDING

P1 N.EAST

EAS.83

Massachusetts Historical Commission
Massachusetts Archives Building
220 Morrissey Boulevard
Boston, Massachusetts 02125

Assessor's
Number

05/213

USGS Quad

Orleans

Area(s)

Form Number

83

Town

Eastham



neighborhood or village)

820 Massasoit Road

c Name

resent

Residential

original

"

Construction

Between 1830 & 1858

See Bibliography*

orm

Center-chimney, Full Cape

House Form

ct/Builder

r Material:

Foundation

Brick

Wall/Trim

Shingles

Roof

Cedar Shingles

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures
Attached breezeway and garage.

Major Alterations (with dates)

See Architectural Description.

Condition

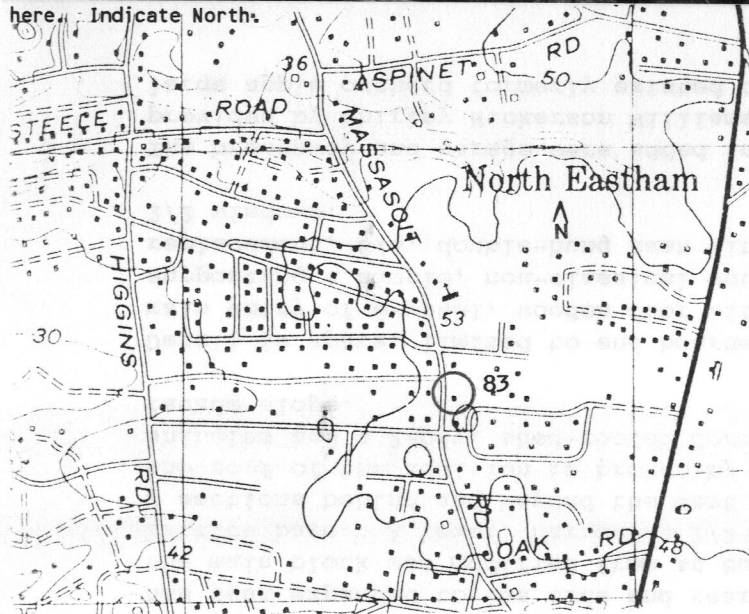
Good

Moved ___ no ? yes Date Unknown

Acreage

.6 Acres

Setting Located in a moderately-settled,
rural area just N of the intersection of
Meadow Drive and Massasoit Road.



Recorded by: Dianne L. Siergiej
and Sanford Johnson
Organization: Commonweal Collaborative

Date: August 1995

RECEIVED

SEP 20 1995

MASS. HIST. COMM.

BUILDING FORM

820 Massasoit Road

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION See continuation sheet.

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

This 1 1/2-story, rectangular, 5 x 2-bay, center-chimney, full Cape Cod house has been expanded to the side and rear. The enclosed porch to the west of the main block was modified from an earlier, open, bracketed porch with lattice base. A lower, narrow, 1 1/2-story, addition extends full-width in 2 sections behind and beyond the west end of the main block. The rear slope of the roof of the addition is broken by a gable-roofed dormer with decorative shingles and a 2-bay, shed-roofed dormer. A skylight has been added to the facade slope.

Detail is spare, limited to end boards, a boxed, molded cornice and a center, main entry of 6-panel, wooden door with top lights, enhanced by pilasters supporting a simple, non-classical entablature. Fenestration consists of replacement, 6/6, double-hung sash with plain trim which supplanted earlier 2/2 windows.

The breezeway and garage were added in 1965/66. According to a description provided by Shirley Nickerson Williams, a barn, several outbuildings and a large apple orchard formerly existed on the property.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE X See continuation sheet.

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

Massasoit Road was developed during the Federal Period (1775-1830). By the end of the Federal Period, Methodists had established a campground near Campground Road off Massasoit Road. This center for summer religious retreats lasted from 1830 to 1862 when the camp moved to Yarmouth. By 1831, one of Eastham's five schools and many residences were located on Massasoit Road.

It is likely that many of the residents were involved in agriculture. Grains were an early cash crop in Eastham and later, asparagus and turnips became more common. Husbandry and fishing were also important sources of income for Massasoit Road residents. By 1901, at least seven farmers were living on Massasoit Road. There were also a clerk, lighthouse keeper, laborer and a grocer. A provisions store was located on the corner of Oak and Massasoit Roads. By the twentieth century, the road had become an important way from Orleans through Eastham to Wellfleet. Seasonal residents had begun building summer homes and cottages by the Early Modern Period.

A date of 1840 is recorded for this house in assessors' records, the source of which is unclear. A notebook in the possession of current owners, Gordon and Carol Wright, indicates the main part of the house was moved from "down the road," but does not state when the relocation occurred. It also notes that the date "1850" is written on the top stair to the second story. The added wall space between first floor windows and the eaves indicates the house was

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES X See continuation sheet.

 Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places;
If checked, see attached National Register Criteria Statement form.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE (continued)

likely erected after 1830. On the 1858 and 1880 maps of Eastham, the house is attributed to Charlania (also Charlenia) Myrick (d. May 7, 1888) and John Myrick (d. 1882), a farmer. According to deed research completed in 1992 by Shirley Williams, the Myrick's willed the property to Osgood W. Horton in 1882 in exchange for care and financial support during the remainder of their lives. Osgood was the son of Isaiah Horton, a selectman who worked as a farmer, fisherman and sailor.

Osgood Horton sold the property to Solomon Snow in 1888. Mrs. Solomon Snow is listed in the resident directory in 1901 which may indicate that Solomon had died in the interim. By 1908, the resident appears to be Mrs. C. Nickerson. The house remained in the possession of the Nickerson Family into the 1960's. The Nickersons had a farm and raised asparagus, which was one of the major market crops in Eastham around the turn of the century, as well as carrots and turnips for which Eastham became famous.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES (continued)

Conversation with current owners, Gordon and Carol Wright and
Dianne L. Siergiej.

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1620-1890, (New York: H. W. Blake, 1890), p. 741.

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*Walker, George F. Atlas of Barnstable County. Boston: George F. Walker
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